

House Resolution 1774

By: Representatives Richardson of the 19th, Keen of the 179th, Burkhalter of the 50th, Roberts of the 154th, and Fleming of the 117th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Professor Bill Thomas and inviting him to appear before the House of
2 Representatives; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Professor Bill Thomas has served since 1986 as the director of the Georgia
4 Legislative Intern program that has provided college students from the participating colleges
5 and universities a valuable experience in the legislative process; and

6 WHEREAS, after first serving in the U. S. Navy and earning his Ph.D. at the University of
7 Arizona, he joined the political science faculty at Georgia State University in 1971, where
8 he has advised countless students and taught courses in American politics and public law and
9 been very active in the university's honors and pre-law programs; and

10 WHEREAS, he became associated with the Georgia Legislative Intern program in 1982 as
11 the coordinator for Georgia State University students seeking this special experience and has
12 recognized the rich learning opportunity these internships provide college students; and

13 WHEREAS, through this program, hundreds of Georgia college and university students have
14 worked as assistants to legislative members and committees, gaining invaluable insight into
15 how government and policy-making work in the state; and

16 WHEREAS, throughout his career he has been regarded as an outstanding teacher and
17 mentor, and as a result, has been a large part of numerous students' decision to pursue legal
18 and public service careers; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas retired from his teaching responsibilities at Georgia State
20 University in 2003, where an award for the political science department's best pre-law
21 student bears his name; and

1 WHEREAS, he is retiring as director of the Georgia Legislative Internship Program this year
2 and plans to travel extensively with his wife and to continue to run on many trails and
3 pathways around Atlanta; and

4 WHEREAS, he is married to Jeanie Thomas, the mother of two daughters, Katrina and Emily
5 Mather; and he is the father of Eric Thomas, a junior high school teacher and coach with one
6 fine grandson, Ethan Alexander Thomas.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
8 the members of this body commend Professor Bill Thomas for his outstanding service as
9 director of the Georgia Legislative Intern program and invite him to appear before this body
10 at a date and time designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the purposes
11 of being recognized by the House of Representatives and receiving an appropriate copy of
12 this resolution.